

NEW COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE

file

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"The young man returns to the beach and recalls a single moment they spent together there. Even though the romance is over now he has something positive to remember. He walks away down the beach from the camera -- away and into the future."

This is the concluding scene in a film now being made by New College tutor in German, Michael von Guttenberg.

When finished, von Guttenberg says the movie entitled "Integrales", will run approximately 20 minutes and, although there will be no dialogue, will have a sound track composed of natural sounds and the music of Edgar Varese.

This is the third film von Guttenberg has made in the last few years. New College student John Peters, who has also made films, is assisting von Guttenberg with the camera work on the current production.

von Guttenberg also portrays one of two characters in the film. The other is played by Valerie Oehn of Sarasota.

"Why do I make films?" von Guttenberg said, "To express ideas through objects -- to put an idea down so it can be seen and not just read."

Regarding films as a form of artistic expression, von Guttenberg says he and Peters try to make every scene in the movie so well composed that if the film were stopped the frozen scene would make a good photograph. Because photography is another of von Guttenberg's hobbies, he is especially strong on the visual impact of his films.

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He is using black and white instead of color film because, as he says, "some films just should be black and white." He prefers black and white not only for its emotional qualities but also because the quality of the finished product is usually higher than with color film.

von Guttenberg writes the scenarios for all his films himself. While he is shooting "Integrales" he is preparing a shooting script for his next film "Twelve Riders," which he says will be basically an anti-war film.

von Guttenberg and Peters have filmed scenes in Bradenton, Sarasota, and on Anna Mari Island.

Although the cast of "Integrales" is small, von Guttenberg noted one of the difficulties he faces is having to get a number of persons together at a regular time to work on the movie. He also says the weather often presents a problem, when the script requires a sunny day and it rains.

von Guttenberg estimates he spends one hour in preparation for each minute of shooting time. He does all the editing himself and estimates this brings the total production time a 20-minute film requires up to approximately 30 hours, although it may take several months to coordinate that time.

His next film he says "will be impressionistic in one sense." The film will incorporate various unusual techniques such as double exposures.

von Guttenberg also prepares the sound for his films on his own tape recorder and then synchronizes the recorded sound with the project film.

One of the primary difficulties, he finds, is to remain "audience oriented" while he is shooting the film. He says that in making a movie it is important to retain a logical sequence of events so the audience can follow the action of the film.

When he finishes this film von Guttenberg hopes to show it as part of the regular New College film program.

His next production will utilize a larger number of New College students and some faculty members as well, he says. He also hopes to combine his hobbies of photography and film-making by utilizing still photographs in the scene transition of his next film.

For all the work he is putting into these films, von Guttenberg feels they are in large part preparation for a more ambitious film based on a novella he is translating from the German.